

Message Text

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47

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 820

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJECT: PROFESSORS MAY LOSE TENURE

1. ROKG HAS ANNOUNCED PLAN TO REPLACE TENURE FOR UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS WITH SYSTEM OF RENEWABLE CONTRACTS. DRP AND YUCHONGHOE SPOKESMEN DISCLOSED JUNE 19 THAT GOVERNMENT IS DRAFTING AMENDMENT TO EDUCATION LAW ALONG THESE LINES FOR VOTE DURING JUNE 28 SPECIAL NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SESSION.

2. PROPOSED PLAN WOULD REQUIRE ASST. PROFESSORS AND INSTRUCTORS TO SIGN ONE TO THREE YEAR CONTRACTS; THESE CONTRACTS COULD BE RENEWED MAXIMUM OF THREE TIMES. FULL AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS WOULD BE HIRED FOR TEN YEAR TERM WHICH COULD BE EXTENDED FOR ANOTHER TEN YEARS IF PROFESSOR HAS "DEMONSTRATED ACHIEVEMENTS." CONTRACTS WILL BE SIGNED AFTER REVIEW BY UNIVERSITY SCREENING COMMITTEE. PURPOSE OF LEGISLATION ACCORDING TO YUCHONGHOE SPOKESMAN YI CHONG-SIK IS TO "DRIVE INCOMPETENT FACULTY MEMBERS OFF THE CAMPUS."

3. LIMITED PRIVATE REACTION SO FAR FROM ACADEMIC
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SOURCES IS ONE OF DEMORALIZATION AT MOVE WHICH WILL LEAVE THEM EVEN MORE OPEN TO GOVERNMENT PRESSURE THAN IS NOW CASE. GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT DOES NOT STATE WHEN OR HOW INITIAL REVIEW AND SELECTION OF

PROFESSORS FOR CONTRACTS WILL TAKE PLACE. GENERAL SPECULATION IS THAT THERE WILL BE SOME ELIMINATION OF ANTI-GOVT PROFESSORS BEFORE FALL TERM, BUT THAT NO LARGE PURGE WILL TAKE PLACE.

4. USIS ACADEMIC SOURCES HAVE REPORTED RUMORS OF ABOLITION TENURE FOR PAST FEW WEEKS. REASON MOST OFTEN GIVEN FOR MOVE WAS ROKG FEELING THAT SOME PROFESSORS CONDONED IF NOT ACTUALLY SUPPORTED STUDENT DISSENT. THIS MOVE WILL ALLOW SUCH PROFESSORS TO BE MORE EASILY REMOVED.

5. NDP HAS ANNOUNCED THAT IT WILL TRY TO BLOCK OR AMEND THIS LEGISLATION, AS WELL AS BILL CREATING CIVIL DEFENSE CORPS, ON FLOOR OF ASSEMBLY. SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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